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# Urban District of Whitefield

# ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR 1925

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

## Veterinary Inspector

AND

## Sanitary Inspector

Presented to the Council, June, 1926

WHITEFIELD:
H. BINGHAM, PRINTER, BANK STREET

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# Whitefield Urban District Council

## HEALTH COMMITTEE
1925·6

Councillor J. MORETON *(Chairman)*
„ J. W. ALLEN
„ J. BENTLEY
„ J. BRADSHAW
„ J. J. BUTTERWORTH
„ N. S. HALL
„ R. HALL
„ F. HILTON
„ T. W. HOWARTH
„ J. HULME
„ H. SPENCER
„ R. WHIPP

*Medical Officer of Health:*
ARCHIBALD J. YOUNG, L.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.E.

*Sanitary Inspector:*
RICHARD C. FORSTER, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.,
*Certified Meat & Food Inspector,*
*School of Hygiene (L'pool Univ.)*

*Veterinary Inspector:*
WILLIAM NOAR, M.R.C.V.S.

# Urban District Council of Whitefield

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1925.

WHITEFIELD,
MAY, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Whitefield Urban District Council.*

SIRS,

I beg to hand you my Report for the year 1925.

## General Statistics.

Whitefield lies about 4½ miles to the northward of Manchester : enjoys an elevated and airy situation, being 411 ft. above Ordnance datum at Old Hall and 311 ft. at the Sewage Works.

It is bounded on the north by the County Borough of Bury, on the south by the Urban District of Prestwich, on the east and north-east by Unsworth (Bury Rural District), on the west and north-west by the Urban District of Radcliffe, and on the south-west by Outwood (Bury Rural District). The river Roch marks the boundary between Whitefield and the County Borough of Bury on the north : and the river Irwell, the boundary between Radcliffe on the north-west.

The greater portion of the land unbuilt on is under tillage.

The area of the District is 1,403 acres. The population is estimated to be 7,202 which gives an average of about five persons per acre.

The number of dwelling houses in the District is 1,862. The average number of persons per house is about four. It is estimated that about 100 houses are occupied by more than one family.

The inhabitants of the District are chiefly occupied in bleaching, dyeing and finishing of cotton goods, and are generally of a healthy disposition.

The Rateable Value of the District is £41,497, a penny rate producing about £172.

## Vital Statistics.

The deaths recorded numbered 89, equalling a death-rate of 12.3 per 1,000. The births numbered 98 (44 males and 54 females), equalling a birth-rate of 13.6 per 1,000. The deaths of infants under one year of age were 6, equalling a rate of infantile mortality of 61 per 1,000 births. There were no deaths from zymotic diseases. Deaths from respiratory diseases, other than phthisis, numbered 16. Phthisis caused one death, giving a rate of 0.13 per 1,000. Deaths from cancer numbered 8, equal to a rate of 1.11 per 1,000. During the year the cases of notifiable diseases numbered 56 (including 11 of tuberculosis ; pulmonary, 6 : other forms, 5) ; scarlet fever, 5 cases; erysipelas, 5; diphtheria, 5; pneumonia, 29; Encephalitis Lethargica 1.

Five cases of diphtheria were promptly treated with anti-toxin, and of these, two were removed to Hospital.

Twenty-nine cases of pneumonia occured during the year, with thirteen deaths.

In most cases of infectious disease, the patient is carefully isolated at home ; where this is not practicable, the patient is removed to Hospital.

Cases of tubercular diseases are notified promptly on the calling in of a medical man.

The Council have no scheme for the treatment of tuberculous cases apart from that of the County Council. Fifty beds are reserved for the use of patients from Whitefield at Aitken Sanatorium.

The Council have the joint use of the hospitals of the Bury and District Hospital Board. 40 beds are available for small-pox and 146 for other infectious diseases, including 50 for patients at Aitken Sanatorium.

Three cases of scarlet fever, and two of diphtheria, were removed to Hospital during the year.

The Ambulance of the Joint Hospital Board is available for the removal to Hospital of cases of infectious diseases.

The Council had, until April, 1922, an agreement with the Bury Corporation for the use of their ambulance for non-infectious cases. After that date the new motor ambulance became available for this purpose. During the year, 61 patients were removed to various hospitals and institutions in Manchester, Salford, Bury and other towns.

### Venereal Disease.

There is now a clinic at Bury, for the use of patients from this District, established by the County Borough Council. Whitefield has very few cases that I am aware of.

**Small-Pox.**

No vaccination or re-vaccination was carried out under the Regulations of 1917.

**Other Diseases.**

No case of anthrax or rabies occured in the District.

The tables on pages 13 and 14 give particulars of the causes of deaths at all ages, and also summarise the vital statistics for the past ten years.

**Maternity and Child Welfare.**

A " Welfare " Centre is established and is run entirely by the County Authority at " The Uplands," Whitefield, every Tuesday afternoon. It is well attended by mothers and children from this and the surrounding Districts (principally Radcliffe).

Two certified midwives are on the County Register, and practise within the District.

**Laboratory Work.**

Chemical and bacteriological examinations are made at the Public Health Laboratories, Manchester University. Eight specimens of milk, and human organs (one man), were submitted during the year.

**Anti-Toxic Sera.**

A supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept in the Health Department, 10,000 units being used during 1925.

A supply of Botulinus Anti-toxic Serum is now available at the County Public Health Department, Preston, and will be forwarded immediately to any medical practitioner asking for the same by telephone (Tel. 1111 Preston).

**Bye-Laws and Adoptive Acts.**

The Council have adopted the following Acts :—The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts II, III, IV, and V ; The Private Street Works Act, 1892 ; The principal parts of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 ; The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890 ; The Public Health Act, 1925, (the adoptive sections coming into operation on Jan. 1st, 1926).

Bye-laws with respect to the following matters are in force in the District :—New Streets and Buildings, Nuisances, Offensive Trades (Tripe Boiling), The Removal of Offensive or Noxious Matters, Slaughter-houses, and Regulations as to Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milkshops.

## Water.

The drinking water is supplied by the Bury and District Joint Water Board, and is upland surface water received into reservoirs, but, in my opinion, requires filtering.

## Rivers and Streams.

No river or stream passes through the District.

## Scavenging.

The scavenging of the ashpits was satisfactory, the refuse being conveyed to a tip. The work was performed by the Sanitary Authority ; the number of loads of refuse removed and the number of receptacles emptied being :—Loads, 1,978 ; ashbins, 46,948 ; ashpits, 931 ; privy middens, 1,490.

## Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewering of the District is that known as the " combined " system.

In the case of new drainage, where a supply of water is available, the " hydraulic " or " water " test is applied ; where this is impracticable they are tested by smoke.

I see from Mr. Forster's Report that the total number of inspections of drains for the purpose of testing and examination was 441, 91 defects being discovered.

## Closet Accommodation.

The sanitary accommodation of the District at the end of the year was :—Fresh water closets, 1,373 ; waste water closets, 169 (this system of waste water closets, which was found to give rise to various nuisances, has been discontinued, property owners being advised to substitute fresh water closets instead, where practicable) ; pail closets, 63 ; privy middens, 295 ; privy closets, 549 ; ashbins, 921 ; dry ashpits, 194.

During 1925, 32 new fresh-water closets were provided in lieu of 26 privy closets, two pail closets, and four waste-water closets. 38 bins were substituted for fixed receptacles.

The adoption by the Council of Section 39 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, would facilitate a more rapid rate of conversion of the 612 remaining privy and pail closets.

## Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Full details under this head are to be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report on page 15. The total number of inspections for all purposes was 2,027 for the year.

68 informal notices and 21 statutory notices were served.

**Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.—Offensive Trades.**

No offensive trade as defined by section 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, is carried on within the District.

There are no Common Lodging-houses or Registered Houses-let-in-lodgings within the District.

**Schools.**

The sanitary condition and water supply of the Elementary and Higher Schools in the District is on the whole satisfactory.

**Milk Supply.** **Food.**

This is produced almost entirely on farms in and about the District, and is generally of good quality and produced under fair conditions. The dairies and cowsheds were visited by the Sanitary Inspector on 61 occasions and by the Veterinary Inspector on 58 occasions. There are now in the District four milkshops selling milk in sealed bottles (which prevents contamination after leaving the source).

Eight samples of milk were taken and examined for the presence or otherwise of tubercle and extraneous matters. No tubercle bacilli were found. Two samples contained dirt in excess, the vendors names being removed from the register.

During the year the Veterinary Inspector continued to inspect the milk cows in the District for evidence of tuberculosis or any other unhealthy condition which would be likely to affect the milk supply of the District. 1,464 cows were examined, two cases of tuberculosis being discovered. (See Mr. Noar's report.)

**Meat.**

There are six registered slaughter-houses in the District. 393 visits have been paid and the following carcases examined :— Beasts, 244 ; calves, 29 ; sheep and lambs, 1235 ; and pigs, 51. The amount of meat condemned and destroyed as being unfit for human food was 2032 lbs. ; 892 lbs. of this meat was condemned on account of tuberculosis. Very careful supervision is exercised by the Meat Inspector with regard to the prevention of unsound meat being prepared for sale within the District.

The slaughter-houses are, on the whole, satisfactory, and were kept clean and limewashed in accordance with the Bye-laws.

There is no public abattoir in the District, inspection of meat being carried out by the Meat Inspector, who is generally present at the time of slaughter.

No legal proceedings were taken, the condemned meat being surrendered voluntarily in every instance.

### Other Foods.

The food supplies of the District received careful attention during the year, foodshops and hawkers' carts being inspected on 137 occasions, and bakehouses on 5 occasions. There are 11 bakehouses on the register, two of which are underground. These were kept clean and were limewashed as required by the Factory and Workshops Act.

### Food Poisoning.

One case of food poisoning was reported and investigated, yet, as no food remains were obtainable, it was difficult to ascribe the case to any particular article of diet.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

18 samples were procured within the District by the County Police (see Mr. Forster's report).

## Housing.

68 houses were erected during the year by private enterprise and a large number of subsidy houses were in course of erection by the end of the year.

The number of new houses still required to be erected in the District to meet the housing requirements is estimated at 300.

Action under the Housing Acts with regard to clearance and reconstruction of unhealthy areas cannot proceed until provision has been made for the accommodation of displaced tenants.

### Overcrowding.

Overcrowding exists in some parts of the District. The principal cause appears to be from the residence at home of married sons and daughters, occasioned by the general shortage of houses. It is very obvious that for this reason little can be done to remedy the evil.

### Fitness of Houses.

The general standard of fitness of the houses is fair. Exception lies in the considerable number of old houses which are grouped into close and badly arranged areas.

Minor defects in the houses are usually treated by notices served under the Public Health Acts. General defects of an extensive character are treated under Section 3 of the Housing Act of 1925.

**Appendices.**

## 1.—GENERAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Population (1925) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 7,202 |
| 2. | General death-rate ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 12.3 |
| 3. | Death-rate from tuberculosis ... ... ... ... | 0.13 |
| 4. | Infantile Mortality ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 61 |
| 5. | Number of dwelling houses of all classes ... ... | 1,862 |
| 6. | Number of families or separate occupiers (estimated) | 1,962 |
| 7. | Rateable value... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | £41,497 |
| 8. | Sum represented by a penny rate ... ... ... ... | £172 |

## 2—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

I.—Inspection.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 32 |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regs., 1925 ... ... | 5 |
| 3. | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... ... ... | 0 |
| 4. | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ... ... ... | 19 |

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ... | 17 |

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919 :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... | 0 |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—(*a*) by owners ... ... ... ... ... | 0 |
| | (*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 |
| 3. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—(*a*) by owners ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| (*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ... ... ... | 0 |

C. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909 :—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ... ... ... | 0 |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... ... ... | 0 |
| 3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ... | 0 |
| 4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... ... | 0 |
| 5. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... ... ... ... | 0 |

| | |
|---|---|
| D. Number of houses demolished voluntarily by owners or converted into workshops, etc. ... ... | 0 |

## Public Health Staff.

The Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health (part time), the Veterinary Inspector (part time), and the Sanitary Inspector (whole time). One half of the salaries of the Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector being repaid to the Council out of the County Fund.

The Veterinary Inspector (Mr. W. Noar) is a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

The Sanitary Inspector (Mr. R. C. Forster) holds, in addition to the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, the Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the School of Hygiene, Liverpool University.

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I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kind help and consideration during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. YOUNG.

## Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1925 and previous Years.

| Year | Population estimated to middle of each year | Births | | Nett Deaths belonging to the District | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nett | | Under 1 year of age | | At all ages | |
| | | No. | Rate | No. | Rate per 1000 nett Births | No. | Rate |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1915 | 6803 | 121 | 17·9 | 11 | 90 | 110 | 16·1 |
| 1916 | 6660 | 136 | 18·7 | 13 | 97 | 95 | 14·2 |
| 1917 | B6975 D6257 | 105 | 15·0 | 11 | 104 | 85 | 13·7 |
| 1918 | B7108 D6344 | 101 | 14·2 | 12 | 79 | 96 | 15·1 |
| 1919 | B7738 D7428 | 96 | 12·4 | 11 | 104 | 96 | 12·9 |
| 1920 | 7724 | 126 | 16·3 | 9 | 71 | 93 | 12·0 |
| 1921 | 7030 | 142 | 20·1 | 12 | 84 | 76 | 10·8 |
| 1922 | 7083 | 132 | 18·6 | 16 | 121 | 104 | 14·6 |
| 1923 | 7099 | 112 | 15·7 | 11 | 98 | 92 | 12·9 |
| 1924 | 7179 | 105 | 14·6 | 3 | 28 | 83 | 11·5 |
| 1925 | 7202 | 98 | 13·6 | 6 | 61 | 89 | 12·3 |

| WHITEFIELD | Birth-rate | Death-rate | Epidemic Death-rate | Phthisis Death-rate | Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1000 Births |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1925 ..... ..... ..... .... ..... | 13·6 | 12·3 | 0·00 | 0.13 | 61 |
| 1924 ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... | 14·6 | 11·5 | 0·27 | 1·53 | 28 |
| Mean of 10 years—1915-24 | 16·3 | 13·3 | .... | 0·73 | 87 |
| Increase or decrease in 1925 on:— | | | | | |
| Previous year ..... ..... | —1·0 | +0·8 | ..... | —1·4 | +33 |
| 10 years' average ..... ..... | —2·6 | —1·05 | ..... | —0·6 | —26 |
| England and Wales, 1925..... | 18·3 | 12·2 | ..... | ..... | 75 |
| 157 Smaller Towns, 1925..... | 18·3 | 11·2 | ..... | ..... | 74 |

## Causes of Death during the Year 1925.

### All Ages.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Enteric Fever ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 2. | Small Pox ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 3. | Measles ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 4. | Scarlet Fever ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 5. | Whooping Cough ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 6. | Diphtheria ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 7. | Influenza ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| 8. | Encephalitis Lethargica ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 9. | Meningococcal Meningitis ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 10. | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| 11. | Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 12. | Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ... ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| 13. | Rheumatic Fever ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| 14. | Diabetes ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| 15. | Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| 16. | Heart Disease ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 18 |
| 17. | Arterio-sclerosis ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| 18. | Bronchitis ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| 19. | Pneumonia (all forms) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 13 |
| 20. | Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ... ... ... | — |
| 21. | Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 22. | Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years of age) ... ... | — |
| 23. | Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| 24. | Cirrhosis of Liver ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 25. | Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| 26. | Puerperal Sepsis ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 27. | Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever ... ... ... | 1 |
| 28. | Congenital Debility, etc. ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| 29. | Suicide... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| 30. | Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| 31. | Other Defined Causes ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 15 |
| 32. | Disease ill-defined or unknown ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| | Total ... ... ... ... | 89 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Nett Births in the year—legitimate ... ... ... ... ... | 94 |
| illegitimate ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Nett Deaths in the year of—legitimate Infants ... ... ... | 6 |
| illegitimate Infants ... ... ... | 0 |

Under 1 year of age, 6—Infant Mortality of 61 per 1,000 Births.

# Urban District Council of Whitefield

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR 1925.

WHITEFIELD,
May, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Whitefield Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following report, being a record of the work carried out in the Health Department during the year ended December 31st, 1925.

## Nuisances.

193 nuisances were reported to the Health Committee. To secure the abatement of these, there were served on the owners or occupiers of the premises on which the nuisances existed, 68 informal and 21 statutory notices. Legal proceedings were taken in one instance (referred to under Dairies and Cowsheds). 818 inspections and re-inspections were made in the District for the purpose of ascertaining the existence of nuisances. Complaints numbered 42 during the year.

The following table summarises the various defects in respect of which the informal notices were served :—

**Nuisances in respect of which Informal Notices were served—**

| | |
|---|---|
| Choked Drains and Gullies ... ... ... ... ... ... | 23 |
| ,, Fresh Water Closets ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| ,, Waste Water Closets ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| ,, Waste Pipes ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Defective Drains ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| ,, Gullies ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| ,, W.C. Cisterns ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| ,, Waste Pipes ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 7 |
| ,, Slopstones ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| ,, Fresh Water Closets ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| ,, Roofs of Dwelling-houses ... ... ... ... | 13 |
| ,, Eaves and Downspouts ... ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| ,, Closet Buildings ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| ,, Ashpits ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| ,, Doors to privies and Ashpits ... ... ... | 1 |
| ,, Ashbins ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 10 |
| Untrapped Rain-water Pipes ... ... ... ... ... ... | 9 |
| Want of Doors to Privies and Ashpits ... ... ... | — |
| ,, Ashbins ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Defective Windows and Frames ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| ,, Internal Plastering ... ... ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| ,, Floors of Dwelling-houses ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Damp Dwelling-houses ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 10 |
| Defective Pointing ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| ,, Yard Paving ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Accumulations of Manure ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| ,, Rubbish ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Dirty House ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Defects in Workshops and Bakehouses ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Black Smoke ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 17 |
| Insufficient Closets ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 25 |
| Total ... ... ... | 193 |

**Infectious Diseases.**

Immediately on receipt of a notification of infectious disease the home is visited and efforts made to trace the origin of the infection.

The patient is isolated, either by removal to the Isolation Hospital or confined to a separate room in the patient's home. In the latter case, instructions are given respecting isolation and disinfection ; the house is visited during convalescence.

At the termination of the case, the Sanitary Inspector gives directions and supervises the disinfection of the room or rooms, bedding, and clothing. Infected rooms are sprayed with a solution of Formaldehyde, or fumigated with Sulphur di-oxide ; the disinfection of bedding is by means of steam, and is carried out at the Isolation Hospital.

Disinfectants are supplied by the Council gratis to bona-fide applicants.

23 visits and revisits have been made to houses in which cases of infections diseases have occurred and have been notified.

45 rooms in 16 houses were disinfected during the year.

The number and nature of the notifications received during 1925 are included in the following table :—

**Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during 1925.**

| Disease. | Number Notified. | Number Removed to Hospital. |
|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | 3 |
| Diphtheria ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | 2 |
| Erysipelas ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | — |
| Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... ... | 29 | — |
| Encephalitis Lethargica ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ... ... ... | 6 | — |
| Do. (Other Forms) ... ... ... | 5 | — |
| Totals ... ... ... | 56 | 5 |

**Housing Acts, 1890 to 1919.**

The total number of inspections made under the Housing Acts during the year was 32, of which number 5 were made under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910. Notices of defects were served in 19 instances.

The Closing Orders which were made in June, 1919, on 12 houses in Livsey Street and on Hatters Farm, are still suspended and further action with regard to the Green Lane Area, which was officially represented by the Medical Officer of Health during 1920, is still in abeyance owing principally to the still acute house shortage and to present day economic conditions.

68 houses were erected and completed by private builders during the year, and upwards of 40 houses were in course of erection on December 31st, 1925.

### The "Rent" Act.

No application for the Certificate of the Local Authority under the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920, Section 2 (4), was received during 1924.

## Food and Food Premises.

### Slaughter-houses.

Six private slaughter-houses are registered. These were kept in a cleanly state and were limewashed in accordance with the Council's Bye-laws.

The number of inspections made during the year was 393, the number of carcases examined being 1,559.

18 cwt. 16 lbs. of meat was found on inspection to be diseased or unfit for food, no difficulty being experienced in procuring voluntary surrender from the owners for the purpose of having the meat destroyed.

The following table gives particulars of the number of carcases examined, together with the number found to be diseased, and the weight of diseased meat condemned and destroyed :—

### Meat Inspection Table.

January 1st to December 31st, 1925.

| | No. of Carcases Inspected | No. of Carcases found to be diseased. | | | | Weight of Meat Destroyed (in lbs.) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Tuberculosis | | | Other diseases | | | |
| | | Whole Carcases | Pts. with Viscera | Viscera only | | Tuber-cular | Other Diseases | Total Weight |
| Beasts ... | 244 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 38 | 667 | 1102 | 1769 |
| Calves ... | 29 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sheep and Lambs | 1235 | — | — | — | 20 | — | 29 | 29 |
| Pigs... ... | 51 | — | 7 | 2 | 2 | 225 | 9 | 234 |
| Totals ... | 1559 | 1 | 10 | 4 | 60 | 892 | 1140 | 2032 |

**Food Premises.**

Frequent visits and inspections were made of the butchers' shops, hawkers' carts, and other premises on which food is prepared or exposed for sale, the total number of such visits being 137 during the year. The shops and most of the hawkers' carts were found to be clean and well kept. No unsound food was discovered.

**Cowsheds and Dairies.**

By the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, which came into operation on the first of September, 1922, Local Authorities are required to keep a register of purveyors of milk by retail and a separate register of producers or wholesalers.

28 persons are included in the register of purveyors ; of this number, 12 reside outside the District, your Inspector having no power of inspection of their premises.

Two persons were removed from the register of retailers on account of the unsatisfactory state of milk samples on analyses.

There are on the register of producers, eight cowkeepers, using 18 cowsheds within the District. Two of the cowkeepers sell the milk produced by wholesale only.

The cowsheds are, without exception, of good modern construction and no case of overcrowding was noted.

The minimum amount of air space demanded for each cow is 800 cubic feet.

61 visits were paid to the cowsheds and dairies, which were kept in accordance with the Regulations with one exception, in which case it was found necessary to take summary proceedings against a farmer on account of an accumulation of manure in the yard adjoining the cowshed. The defendant was ordered to abate the nuisance within fourteen days, and also to pay nine shillings costs.

Several visits were paid to farms in company with the Veterinary Inspector (Mr. W. Noar). Three samples of milk were procured, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories, Manchester, for examination for tubercle bacilli. In no case was the bacillus found.

Eight samples of milk were purchased from producers and purveyors and examined for the presence of dirt. The following table gives details of the specimens of milk examined at the Public Health Laboratories :—

| Reference Number | Tubercle Bacilli | Extraneous matter (dirt) per 100,000 parts | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| 61 | — | 6 | Mixed Milk (morning) |
| 62 | — | 4 | ,, ,, |
| 63 | — | 4 | ,, (evening) |
| 64 | — | 10 | ,, (morning) |
| 65 | Not found | 8 | ,, ,, |
| 66 | Not found | † | ,, (evening) |
| 67 | — | 4 | ,, (morning) |
| 68 | Not found | 6 | ,, ,, |

† It was not possible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the amount of extraneous in this sample; it was excessive.

The names of the retailers of samples 64 and 66 were removed from the register.

## Food and Drugs Acts.

18 samples were purchased in the district during the year by the County Police, for analyses under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, particulars of which have been supplied by the courtesy of Supt. W. Thompson, as follows :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Milk ... ... ... ... ... | 6 | samples |
| Gregory Powder ... ... ... | 2 | ,, |
| Cream of Tartar ... ... ... | 2 | ,, |
| Margarine ... ... ... ... | 2 | ,, |
| Bi-carbonate of Soda ... | 2 | ,, |
| Epsom Salts ... ... ... | 2 | ,, |
| Butter ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | ,, |
| Total ... ... | 18 | |
| 1924 ... ... ... | 25 | |

All were genuine.

## Factory and Workshops Act.

**Factories.**

The inspection of these is in the hands of H.M. Inspector of Factories. Any act, neglect, or default which can be dealt with under the Public Health Acts is referred by him to the Local Authority. No notice was received during 1925.

**Workshops.**

The number of workshops on the Register is 54 (exclusive of bakehouses). These were visited on 10 occasions : no defect was found. Particulars of the various trades carried on in the workshops are shown in the table on page 21.

### Bakehouses.

Eleven bakehouses are registered, two of which are underground. All were kept in a satisfactory condition, and were limewashed as required by the Factory and Workshops Act. 5 visits were paid.

### Outworkers.

Occupiers of factories, workshops, or any place from which work of certain kinds is given out are required to keep a list of outworkers employed by them, and to send a copy of the list to the local Authority on or before the 1st of February and the 1st of August in each year. No list was received during 1925.

### Registered Workshops.

| | |
|---|---|
| Bakehouses (two underground) ... | 11 |
| Blacksmiths ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Boot and Shoe Repairers ... ... | 12 |
| Builders ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Chip and Fish Shops ... ... ... | 10 |
| Clogger ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Drysalter ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Hairdressers ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Joiners ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Milliners ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Monumental Masons ... ... ... | 2 |
| Painters ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Plasterer ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Plumbers ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Print Cutter ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Printers ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Saddler ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Tailor ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Watch and Clock Repairer ... ... | 1 |
| Wheelwright ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Total ... ... | 65 |

### Offensive Trades.

No offensive trade is at present established within the District.

### Smoke Observations.

Six observations of one hour each were made of the chimneys of the various works and mills of the District. In one case the time limit for the emission of black smoke was exceeded. An informal notice was served on the owner of the mill concerned, immediate abatement of the nuisance being observed.

## Sewers and Drains.

In the case of new drainage, where a supply of water is available, the "hydraulic" or "water" test is applied. In other cases, where practicable, the drains are tested by means of smoke applied under pressure. 78 new drains were "water" tested, and 10 new drains smoke tested, 79 defective joints, 5 defective pipes, and 7 defective fittings being discovered.

Four old drains were smoke tested, defects being found in two instances.

441 visits were made for the purpose of testing drains, and inspecting drainage and plumbing work in progress.

The length of new drains tested is as follows :—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4in. | drains | water tested ... | 2947 | feet. |
| 6in. | ,, | ,, ... | 248 | ,, |
| 4in. | ,, | smoke tested .. | 150 | ,, |
| 6in. | ,, | ,, ... | 272 | ,, |

### Conversions.

26 privy closets, two pail closets and four waste water closets, were converted to fresh water closets, a slight increase over the figures for 1924.

Section 39 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, not having been adopted in the District, legal procedure in respect of conversions is taken under Section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

## Scavenging.

The removal of house refuse is undertaken by the Council, and is carried out by the Council's own employees under the superintendence of the Sanitary Inspector.

All scavenging is carried out by day, no night work having been introduced. The majority of the middens in the District abut on back streets and back passages which are unpaved : there is, consequently, much pollution of the subsoil during the process of emptying the middens.

There is no Destructor in the District, all refuse being tipped.

1,978 loads of house refuse, having an estimated average weight of $1\frac{1}{4}$ tons, were removed during the year, at an inclusive cost of 8s. 4.5d. per load.

The number of ashbins increased by 123 during the year, this portable form of refuse receptacle being required for all new property and in the case of conversions.

Privy middens are emptied from five to eight times annually. Ashbins and pails are emptied weekly.

Written requests to empty receptacles numbered eight only.

Subjoined are tables giving details of the numbers of the various receptacles emptied, and the number of loads of refuse tipped month by month, and reported to the Health Committee at each Meeting, also an account of the closet accommodation of the District.

| | Ashbins | Dry Ashpits | Privy Middens | Loads |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| January ... ... ... ... | 3297 | 110 | 106 | 168 |
| February ... ... ... | 2546 | 52 | 134 | 169 |
| March / April ... ... ... ... | 8319 | 162 | 294 | 360 |
| May ... ... ... ... ... | 3924 | 73 | 68 | 151 |
| June ... ... ... ... | 3888 | 72 | 111 | 150 |
| July / August ... ... ... ... | 7923 | 136 | 241 | 328 |
| September ... ... ... | 4957 | 98 | 161 | 188 |
| October ... ... ... ... | 4061 | 87 | 158 | 176 |
| November ... ... ... | 4010 | 101 | 103 | 150 |
| December ... ... ... | 4023 | 40 | 114 | 138 |
| Totals ... ... ... | 46948 | 931 | 1490 | 1978 |

## Sanitary Accommodation of the Disrtict.

| Type | Number on Dec. 31st, 1924 | Number on Dec. 31st, 1925 |
|---|---|---|
| Fresh Water Closets ... ... ... ... | 1250 | 1373 |
| Waste Water Closets ... ... ... ... | 174 | 169 |
| Dry Ashpits ... ... ... ... ... ... | 195 | 194 |
| Privy Middens ... ... ... ... ... | 286 | 295 |
| Privy Closets ... ... ... ... ... ... | 561 | 549 |
| Pail Closets ... ... ... ... ... ... | 59 | 63 |
| Ashbins ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 798 | 921 |
| Totals ... ... | 3323 | 3564 |

## Rats and Mice Destruction.

The administration of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, was relegated to the Council in July, 1922, the Sanitary Inspector performing the duties thereunder.

No written complaint was received during the year.

14 inspections were made under the Act, and advice given to owners or occupiers.

## Summary of Visits.

| | |
|---|---|
| Nuisances—Inspections and re-Visits ... ... ... ... ... | 818 |
| Infectious Diseases—Inquiries and re-Visits ... ... ... | 23 |
| Do. Disinfections... ... ... ... ... ... | 16 |
| Housing Acts—Inspections and re-Visits ... ... ... ... | 50 |
| Slaughter Houses—Inspections ... ... ... ... ... ... | 393 |
| Foodshops and Hawkers—Inspections ... ... ... ... ... | 137 |
| Dairies and Cowsheds—Inspections ... ... ... ... ... | 61 |
| Factories and Workshops—Inspections ... ... ... ... | 15 |
| Bakehouses—Inspections ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Stables and Piggeries—Inspections ... ... ... ... ... | 11 |
| Schools and Places of Public Entertainment ... ... ... | 5 |
| Farms and Milk Carts, for Milk Samples ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| Smoke Observations... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Drain Tests ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 92 |
| Work in Progress ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 349 |
| Interviews with Owners *re* Nuisances, etc. ... ... ... ... | 24 |
| Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act—Inspections and re-Inspections ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 14 |
| Total ... ... ... ... | 2027 |

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. FORSTER,

Sanitary Inspector.

# Urban District Council of Whitefield

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# VETERINARY INSPECTOR

FOR 1925.

WHITEFIELD,
DECEMBER 31ST, 1925.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Whitefield Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to hand you my report for the year 1925, and to state that the total number of visits to the various Farms was 58, and the number of Cattle examined 1464.

The area has been free from Foot and Mouth Disease, and I am pleased to say I have only had 2 cases of Tuberculosis to report under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925, which were dealt with by the County Authority.

One of General Tuberculosis, which was confirmed by post-mortem examination, and one of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, which upon post-mortem examination proved to be the result of " wire " taken in with the food, having penetrated the Lungs.

There have been 3 cases of Mammitis (Inflammation of the Udder) on different farms during the year, which all yielded to treatment, and the general health of the cattle has been good, and more attention has been paid by the Owners to the Cowsheds and Utensils, under the supervision which has been upheld throughout.

Your obedient Servant,

(*Signed*) WM. NOAR, M.R.C.V.S.

Member of the Royal Institute of Public Health,

*Veterinary Inspector.*